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# Blunder laid to CIA head

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WASHINGTON — CIA director Stansfield Turner's failure to consult other agencies about the risks of a big aircraft sale to Iran may jeopardize his efforts to control all intelligence, Administration sources said yesterday.

The sources said Turner made a bureaucratic blunder in a classified letter to the General Accounting Office, saying the Soviets might get their hands on top secret coding equipment on seven AWACS radar planes President Carter approved for the \$1.23 billion sale to Iran.

The sources said the aircraft approved for sale were not fitted with the sensitive equipment. Turner did not know that because he acted unilaterally and did not consult other government departments, they said.

A CIA spokesman said Turner's staff had been in touch with other agencies before the letter was sent and intelligence sources said the reference to the coding equipment was only one "option" described in a seven-page enclosure that accompanied it.

A proposal by Turner to centralize his control over functions now handled within the Pentagon —

such as spy satellites, communications interception and code-cracking — now is at the White House. It is being fought by Defense Secretary Harold Brown.

Administration sources said Turner would not have erred about the AWACS "had he coordinated with the National Security Council and State and Defense Departments," and that it took a telephone call from Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's national security adviser to straighten out the CIA director.

Brown is known to be particularly concerned over the chance the Pentagon might lose its role in deciding what targets spy satellites will watch because of their critical importance in providing quick information on Soviet military activities.

"Turner now has responsibility for tasking satellites, but Defense has a handle on it as well," said one source. "Under Turner's plan, you could have a situation in which the satellites were counting the wheat crop in Azerbaijan when we needed to know how many tanks were coming across the border."

Proposed sale of the AWACS, a high-technology system aboard Boeing 707 jetliners which carry a downward-looking radar and electronics equipment worth more than \$100 million, is now being scrutinized by Congress, where a move is under way to veto the sale.